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Of Executive Secretary

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U.S. House of Representatives

Committee on the Judiciary Washington, D.C. 20515 Telephone: 202-225-3951

ALAN A. PARKER

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Executive Registry 83-1128/4

April 20, 1983

William J. Casey Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

I have been advised that the CIA will not accept the invitation to appear and testify at a joint hearing to be held before the Judiciary Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights and the Post Office and Civil Service Subcommittee on Civil Service, on April 28.

As Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, I feel it incumbent upon me to express the importance this Committee attaches to the voluntary compliance by federal agencies to our invitations to appear before it. In this case, the issues to be examined -- the use of pre-publication review and polygraph tests -- are most important and the role of the CIA in implementing its own pre-publication review requirement is central to the understanding of one of these issues. I, therefore, hope that you will reconsider your decision not to provide the Subcommittee with witnesses who can assist it in its deliberations.

My understanding is that the CIA has two primary objections to appearing on April 28. The first objection is that the CIA has already fully briefed the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence regarding its pre-publication review process. am certain you are aware, House Rule XLVIII, which established the Select Committee on Intelligence, explicitly states that:

Nothing in this rule shall be construed as prohibiting or otherwise restricting the authority of any other committee to study and review any intelligence or intelligence-related activity to the extent that such activity directly affects a matter otherwise within the jurisdiction of such committee.

It further states that:

Nothing in the rule shall be construed as amending, limiting, or otherwise changing the



William J. Casey April 20, 1983 Page two

authority of any standing committee of the House to obtain full and prompt access to the product of the intelligence-related activities of any department or agency of the Government relevant to a matter otherwise within the jurisdiction of such committee.

Therefore, the fact that the CIA has already testified on this issue before the Select Committee on Intelligence in no way diminishes this Committee's obligation to obtain such testimony as it needs, in a context which permits its members to fully explore all matters within its jurisdiction. Furthermore, since the prior testimony was elicited over three years ago, it is obvious that new facts as well as new questions have arisen that the Intelligence Committee did not address.

The second objection is apparently based on the CIA's assumption that the Department of Justice witness can adequately address the issue of how the CIA implements its pre-publication review process. While that may be the CIA's belief, the Subcommittee believes otherwise.

Again, I urge you to accept the Subcommittee's invitation to appear and testify, primarily about your own pre-publication review process. Your earliest response will be most appreciated.

With kind regards,

Sincerery,

Peter W. Rodino, Jr.

Chairman

Committee on the Judiciary

PWRJ:hgd

cc: Burton Hutchings

Legislative Liaison Division